

NONIMMIGRANT VISAS

Exchange of notes verbales at Rome September 28 and 29, 1948

Entered into force September 29, 1948; operative November 1, 1948

62 Stat. 3480; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1867

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Embassy

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
D.G.E.—Aliens
04165/30

NOTE VERBALE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honor to communicate to the Embassy of the United States of America that the Italian Government has decided to abolish, beginning November 1 next, the visa on passports of American citizens who intend to pass through Italy or sojourn there for a period not exceeding three consecutive months. The competent authorities of the Security Police may grant extensions of the residence permit, at the request of the persons concerned, for a maximum period of three months.

United States citizens who intend to remain in Italy for a longer or indefinite period must provide themselves, before beginning the trip, with a visa which will be granted by Italian representatives abroad after consultation with the competent central authority.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was pleased to learn from the American Embassy's pro memoria, no. 308 of June 27, 1947, and from subsequent communications, that its Government is prepared to grant to Italian citizens intending to go to the United States for a temporary stay non-immigrant visas valid for presentation at a port of disembarkation one or more times in a two-year period. Such visa will have the validity of the passport on which it is placed for a maximum period of two years.

The Italian central authorities will make their decision known with reference to the applications of United States citizens for a long stay within two months after receipt of the respective applications. It would be appreciated if, within the same period, the consuls of the United States of America would undertake to accept the applications of Italian citizens desiring to obtain a non-immigrant visa or make known their reasons in case of refusal.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honor to request the Embassy of the United States of America to make its views known with respect to the provisions alluded to above and to communicate the date of entry into force.

Rome, September 28, 1948

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THE EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Rome

The American Embassy to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

F.O. No. 1887

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to acknowledge with pleasure the Ministry's Note No. 04165/30 of September 28, 1948 regarding the decision of the Italian Government to waive from November 1, 1948 visas on passports of United States citizens who intend to transit through Italy or stay in Italy for not exceeding three consecutive months, with the privilege of extension for a maximum period of three months.

American consular offices are being instructed by the Department of State, effective November 1, 1948, to grant non-immigrant visas valid for 24 months to Italian subjects classified as temporary visitors under Section 3(2) of the United States Immigration Act of 1924,¹ as amended, as long as visa requirements are waived for American citizens proceeding to Italy for a visit, or in transit. The 24 months' period of validity will apply only to temporary visitors classified under Section 3(2) of the Act; visas issued to government officials and members of international organizations under Sections 3(1) and 3(7) of the Act will continue to be issued valid for twelve months. The waiver of passport visa fees for non-immigrant temporary visitors is continued.

In considering the period of validity for two years it should be understood that the visas granted would be valid for presentation at a port of entry at any time, or any number of times, during the two-year period. It would have no relation to the period of stay in the country which may be granted to the bearer of such a visa if he is admitted into the country after inspection at the port of entry. In accordance with existing procedure, the immigration officials at the port of entry would continue to specify the authorized length of stay of an alien for each visit. In general the passport of an alien

¹ 43 Stat. 154.

must be valid for a period of at least 60 days beyond the period of the alien's contemplated stay in the United States.

No visa granted for a period of two years would be valid for such period unless the passport or other acceptable travel document of the bearer is valid for such period. However, if the passport or travel document is not valid for the full period of two years at the time the visa is granted the passport or travel document may be extended by the issuing authority for the full period of two years or more, in which event the visa would be considered as valid for the full period of two years.

The Embassy notes that the Italian authorities will take action on applications for longer sojourns of United States citizens within two months and agrees, insofar as possible within the limits of American law, to act on applications for visas submitted by Italian citizens within the same period of time.

ROME, *September 29, 1948.*

HMB

To the

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Rome.